

Cohorts

The number of applicants continues to increase and is currently over 100 applicants each year.



Quantitative Data

The Lunalilo Scholars are compared to other first-time to college and first-time Native Hawaiian students in both demographics and academic success.

Financial Need

On average, 71% of the scholars are PELL (federal grant) eligible, which means they have zero to very little means of paying for a higher education.

Age Distribution

The age range is 17 to 53, with up to 90% of the scholars being 24 years of age or younger.

Gender

Despite preference given to male applicants beginning in 2014, the number of females in the program remains significantly higher at anywhere from 58% to 76% female.

Ethnicity

Lunalilo Scholars are less ethnically diverse than the general first-time student population, which is comprised of up to 23 ethnicities compared to just eight for the scholars. In the past four years, 56 to 95% of the cohort was of Native Hawaiian ancestry, compared to 16 to 20% of the general first-time population.

Major

Lunalilo Scholars are more likely to declare a major in the first semester than the general first-time student. Out of 22 majors offered, the most popular majors among the scholars are liberal arts, natural sciences, culinary arts, Hawaiian studies, information technology, hospitality and tourism, and accounting. Students declaring a major in liberal arts are typically intending to transfer to a four-year university or college or apply to a selective admissions program at KCC, which include the health sciences, nursing, and new media arts.

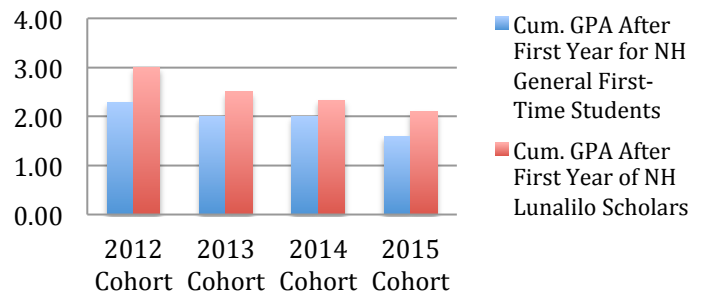
Credits Enrolled to Credits Earned

Lunalilo Scholars are required to enroll in a minimum of nine credits each semester, yet typically enroll in at least 12. When compared to all general first-time students at the same year of matriculation, the scholars earn slightly less credits. However, Native Hawaiian Scholars earn more credits each semester and continue to earn more credits over time.

GPA Performance

The Lunalilo Scholars perform about the same as other first-year students when comparing median GPA. When comparing only the Native Hawaiian students, the Scholars outperform their counterparts, as shown in Figure 1.

Figure 1: Comparison of Cumulative GPA After the First Year of College for Native Hawaiian Students



Retention and Persistence Rates

The retention rate is the percentage of students that re-enroll in the College between the fall and spring semesters. The persistence rate is the percentage of students that continue to enroll from the first year to the second year or from fall to fall semesters. National persistence rates hover at about 50%. All Lunalilo Scholars are retained and persist at higher rates than their counterparts, with an average retention rate of 92% (Figure 2) and an average persistence rate of 65% (Figure 3).

Figure 2: Comparison of Retention Rates (Fall to Spring Re-Enrollment)

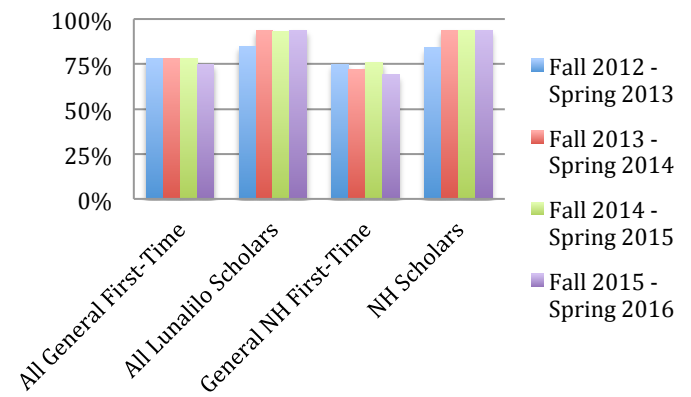


Figure 3: Comparison of Persistence Rates (Fall to Fall Re-Enrollment)

